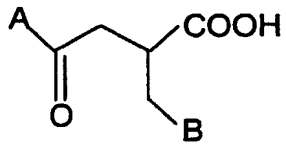
CLAIMS

1. Pharmaceutical composition comprising, as active principles, (i) at least one α-glucosidase inhibitor and (ii) at least one compound of the formula (I), in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, the compound of the formula (I) being defined as follows:



(I)

in which the groups A and B are chosen, independently of each other, from:

- a mono-, bi- or tricyclic aryl group containing from 6 to 14 carbon atoms;
- a heteroaromatic group chosen from pyridyl, pyrimidyl, pyrrolyl, furyl and thienyl groups;
- an alkyl group containing from 1 to 14 carbon atoms;
- a cycloalkyl group containing from 5 to 8 carbon atoms;
- a saturated heterocyclic group chosen from tetrahydrofuryl, tetrahydropyranyl, piperidyl and pyrrolidinyl groups;

the groups A and B possibly bearing 1 to 3 substituents chosen from a C_1-C_6 alkyl group, a C_1-C_6 alkoxy group, a C_6-C_{14} aryl group, a heteroaryl group chosen from pyridyl, pyrimidyl, pyrrolyl, furyl and thienyl, a (C_6-C_{14})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkyl group, a (C_6-C_{14})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkyl(C_6-C_{14})aryl group, a halogen or a trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, cyano, hydroxyl, nitro, amino, carboxyl, (C_1-C_6)alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, (C_1-C_6)alkylsulfonyl, sulfoamino, (C_1-C_6)alkylsulfonylamino, sulfamoyl or (C_1-C_6)alkylcarbonylamino group;

or two of the substituents forming a methylenedioxy group, a solvate thereof or a salt of this acid.

2. Composition according to Claim 1 for treating diabetes.

3. Composition according to either of Claims 1 and 2 for treating non-insulin-dependent diabetes.

4. Composition according to Claim 1 for treating at least one of the pathologies associated with insulin resistance syndrome, more particularly chosen from dyslipidaemia, obesity, arterial hypertension, and microvascular and macrovascular complications, for instance atherosclerosis, retinopathies, nephropathies and neuropathies.

5. Pharmaceutical composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the weight ratio of α-glycosidase inhibitor to the compound of the formula (I) ranges from 10^{-3} to 40, preferably from 10^{-3} to 10 and better still from 10^{-3} to 5.

6. Pharmaceutical composition according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the α-glucosidase inhibitor is chosen from acarbose, miglitol, voglibose and emiglitate.

7. Composition according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the compound of the formula (I) is chosen from:

- 2-benzyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-cyclohexylmethyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-(β-naphthylmethyl)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-(β-naphthyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-cyclohexyl-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 4-phenyl-2-[(tetrahydrofur-2-yl)methyl]-4-oxobutanoic acid,

the solvates, enantiomers and salts of these acids.

8. Composition according to Claim 7, characterised in that the compound of the formula (I) is chosen from:

- (-)-2-benzyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- (+)-2-benzyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- (-)-2-benzyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- (+)-2-benzyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid.

9. Composition according to any one of the preceding claims, which is suitable for oral administration.

10. Use of an α-glucosidase inhibitor in combination with a compound of the formula (I) as defined in Claim 1 for the preparation of a medicinal combination for treating diabetes.

11. Use according to Claim 10 for the preparation of a medicinal combination for treating non-insulin-dependent diabetes.

12. Use of an α-glucosidase inhibitor in combination with a compound of the formula (I) as defined in Claim 1 for the preparation of a medicinal combination for treating at least one of the pathologies associated with insulin resistance syndrome, more particularly chosen from dyslipidaemia, obesity, arterial hypertension, and microvascular and macrovascular complications, for instance atherosclerosis, retinopathies, nephropathies and neuropathies.

13. Use according to any one of Claims 10 to 12, characterised in that the α-glucosidase inhibitor is chosen from acarbose, miglitol, voglibose and emiglitate.

14. Use according to one of Claims 10 to 13, characterised in that the compound of the formula (I) is chosen from:

- 2-benzyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-cyclohexylmethyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-(β-naphthylmethyl)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid

- 2-benzyl-4-(β-naphthyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 2-benzyl-4-cyclohexyl-4-oxobutanoic acid
- 4-phenyl-2-[(tetrahydrofur-2-yl)methyl]-4-oxobutanoic acid,

the solvates, enantiomers and salts of these acids.

15. Use according to any one of Claims 10 to 14, characterised in that the medicinal combination is in the form of a unit dose comprising an α-glucosidase inhibitor and a compound of the formula (I).

16. Use according to the preceding claim, characterised in that the unit dose comprises from 0.1 mg to 400 mg of an α-glucosidase inhibitor and from 12.5 to 400 mg of compound of the formula (I).